

the Carroll Senior High and Carroll High School's Lady Dragon Cross Country Team on their 2007 5A State Championship.

This is the Lady Dragon's first place win for the third consecutive year. The team learned days after the November 17th State 5A meet that they finished in first place. They were originally awarded second, following a tie breaker, but the University Interscholastic League later confirmed an error in the place results and awarded the Lady Dragon's with the top finish.

The Lady Dragon State Cross Country consists of 7 tremendous young women, including Seniors Taylor Stephens and Lauren Hill; Juniors Tara Upshaw, Lucia Xiong, Caitlin Gilbert and Jessica Ferber; and Sophomore Jessica Harper. They are coached by Robert Ondrasek.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lady Dragon's on a great season and their State Championship. The Carroll Senior High School and the Carroll High School deserve public recognition for this great honor and I extend my congratulations to the outstanding runners and coaching staff.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARCI NOVAK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marci Novak, the founder of For the Love of the Lake.

In 1995, Marci and a group of enthusiastic volunteers formed For the Love of the Lake, committed to the preservation and enhancement of White Rock Lake Park in Dallas, Texas. She envisioned turning a dirty, litter-filled lake into a clean and beautiful urban oasis. Under her leadership, For the Love of the Lake has expanded to thousands of volunteers and implemented creative new programs such as the White Rock 'n' Roll Run, Adopt-a-Shoreline, and the Celebration Tree Grove project.

Whether rain or shine, warm or cold, Marci has spent countless Saturdays at White Rock Lake over the years. As a result of her hard work, For the Love of the Lake has received countless contributions from the local community as well as grants from Dallas Park and Recreation Department. We share a common vision—a clean and magnificent environment where children can play and wild life can flourish. It was that shared vision that spurred my involvement, which began in 1995. I am grateful for Marci—for her getting me involved in such a wonderful and valuable organization and for her dedication, which has ensured that White Rock Lake Park can continue to be enjoyed by families, local citizens, and visitors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for her passion and hard work.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KEVIN MILLER FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT.

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Kevin Miller showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Kevin Miller on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO JESSE L. BLANDING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jesse L. Blanding. Jesse was born in Lugoff, South Carolina to Bergegard and Mazie Blanding. He is 1 of 7 children, 2 boys and 5 girls.

Jesse was educated in the Lugoff School System, graduating from Jackson High School in 1962. Upon his graduation, he obtained a job with the City of Columbia as a laborer. He eventually worked his way up to machinist and later, bricklayer.

Jesse relocated to New York City gaining employment at Standard Plating where he was able to display his willingness to work hard. It all paid off when he received a promotion to foreman. After 5 years, he went to work for the Nice Fuel Oil Company. After 3 years he left Nice Fuel and went to work for Wally Fuel where he stayed for 17 years.

Jesse is a busy member of New Canaan Baptist Church. He has worked as the bus driver and maintenance person for New Canaan's bus company. Jesse's memberships in various ministries include: former president of the Male Chorus, Chairman of the Musician's Appreciation Committee, and membership in the South Carolina Club. He is instrumental in the renovation of New Canaan and its day to day upkeep.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work and achievements of Jesse Blanding.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this kind and tenacious man.

TRIBUTE TO THE SNOWBOARD OUTREACH SOCIETY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the great work of the Snowsports Outreach Society (SOS Outreach), based in Vail, Colorado, which is dedicated to providing outdoor recreation and confidence-building opportunities to underprivileged youth.

The snow sports industry is an essential part of Colorado's lifestyle, economy and image. Colorado's mountainous terrain and world class resorts have set the standard for the ultimate experience in sliding on snow. As co-chair of the Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus and an avid skier myself, I understand the importance of this outdoor activity—in all its forms—for its physical health benefits and the recreation economy of Colorado and the country's ski resorts.

SOS Outreach complements the benefits of snow sports by providing dynamic programs to 2,500 youths in need nationwide. During the current season, 2,000 Colorado participants will be enrolled in a 7-year curriculum. I am proud to support the work that they do to grow the sport and promote positive self-esteem in their participants.

Now celebrating its 14th anniversary, SOS Outreach was founded in Vail, Colorado in 1993. SOS Outreach is a grassroots, 501(c)(3) organization. Through the work of its founder and executive director, Arn Menconi and former director of snowboarding for Vail Resorts, Ray Sforzo, a charity was developed that appealed to the mountain resort's desire to build the community by serving underprivileged youth.

SOS Outreach first introduced youth to the benefits of outdoor recreation during the 1995–1996 season when they taught 40 youths snowboarding. They were provided with one day of free lessons, equipment and lift tickets. Since their first season, SOS Outreach has partnered with mountain resorts, youth agencies, foundations, corporations and individual donors to expand their curriculum and serve over 7,500 youths. SOS Outreach is further leveraging their partnerships to expand their programs and include skiing. Over 7,000 program days will be provided at 29 resorts across the country, 13 in the State of Colorado.

SOS Outreach reaches out to its participants by providing a high quality, resilience-based program that positively impacts self-esteem and ability to participate positively within their communities; supports underserved youth through adult mentorship; and encourages personal character education through SOS Outreach's five core values of courage, discipline, integrity, wisdom and compassion. In using snowboarding and skiing as the carrot, SOS Outreach also sets personal, academic and athletic goals with kids and provides vocational skills training. Their curriculum is recognized nationally for its impact.

The dynamic programming they provide would not be successful without the substantial support of the following individuals and organizations. I would like to recognize and thank each of them for sustaining such a program in Colorado:

Bill Jensen and Kara Heide of Vail Resorts; Ken Gart and everyone at Specialty Sports Venture; Chris Ryman of Booth Creek Ski Holdings; Colorado Mountain Resorts for their donation of lift tickets, lessons and rental equipment; Harry Frampton and Ceil Folz of the Vail Valley Foundation; Robert Veitch of the Harold W. Shaw and Mary Louise Shaw Foundation; Linda Childers of the Daniels Fund; William Hybl of the El Pomar Foundation; Bill Cotton of Optic Nerve Sunglasses; Robert Marcovitch of K2 Inc.; Mike West of 686; Wendy and Mike Carey of Seirus; Chaos Hats; Ride Snowboards; Salomon Sports; Sutherland Foundation; Bob Hernreich; Kay and Craig Tuber; to the staff of SOS Outreach: Am & Anne Menconi, Michelle Hartel, Jon Garrou, Seth Ehrlich, Jody Link, Thersa Bisio; and, the hundreds of adults that give of themselves to be positive mentors to these young people.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking SOS Outreach for its great work and extending our wishes for continued success and instilling a love for the outdoors and snow sports—and personal achievement and self confidence—for many young people.

THE PASSING OF CONGRESSMAN
HENRY HYDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of our colleague from Illinois, Henry J. Hyde. Congressman Hyde served in the House of Representatives for over 30 years and his respect for this body and the United States of America was a hallmark of his career. Volunteering to serve in the Navy during World War II, he played basketball at Georgetown, graduated from Loyola law school and eventually chaired both the Judiciary and International Relations Committees, presiding over both with the same dignity and eloquence with which he treated all floor debate.

Henry was perhaps best known as Congress's leading voice for protecting the unborn. During his first term, he was successful in enacting the "Hyde amendment," which outlawed the Federal funding of abortion in most cases, and still stands today. But what stands out equally to many of us is the way he handled this advocacy, always arguing passionately, always arguing forcefully, but always arguing his beliefs with a grace and tact that provided for an honest exchange on the most contentious of issues. This is a great lesson for all of us today, that even when we disagree, we should debate the issues on their merits, with the highest levels of decorum.

Madam Speaker, Henry Hyde was an influential presence in the House of Representatives and both national and Illinois politics. He will not soon be forgotten, and I send my condolences to his family.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JOSEPH AGIN FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Joseph Agin showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and Whereas, Joseph Agin was a supportive team player; and Whereas, Joseph Agin always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Joseph Agin on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL AJLOUNY,
ESQ.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work and achievements of Paul Ajlouny. Paul was born in 1959 in Detroit, Michigan. He moved to Hempstead, Long Island in 1965.

Paul graduated from Chaminade High School in Mineola, New York in 1977. He earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree from American University of Beirut with a double major of Biology and Chemistry, graduating with honors. Afterwards he attended American University of Beirut's Medical School.

Paul became Vice-President of Export for Omar International Grain and Trading Company in 1983. In 1989, he left there and became a Hospital Administrator. Following his stint at the hospital, he decided to return to college and enrolled in St. John's Law School. He graduated from St. John's in 1999.

Paul now has a private practice specializing in personal injury law. His firm serves poor and disadvantaged clients throughout the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. He is a member of the Nassau County Bar Association; the Trial Lawyers of America; The New York State Bar Association; and the American Bar Association.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Paul Ajlouny, Esq. for his contributions to our community and for providing his legal expertise to those who need it most.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Paul Ajlouny.

HONORING SCOTT ADAMCHESKI

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Scott Adamcheski for

his exemplary courage. Scott Adamcheski is a fireman with Station No. 5 in Boulder, Colorado. On October 26, 2007 he was one of a group of firefighters who responded to a call at the Gold Run Apartment Complex.

Upon arrival Mr. Adamcheski searched one of the apartment buildings for anyone who may have been trapped by the ensuing flames. Mr. Jordan Brooks, a senior at the University of Colorado, cried for help as he lay choking on the 3rd floor. Mr. Adamcheski found the student, immediately called for backup and brought Mr. Brooks to safety through a window he had to break.

This is just one example of the risks firefighters take every day. Mr. Adamcheski's bravery was called to my attention and while I am sure he takes his actions in stride as the kind of thing he and his fellow firefighters contend with routinely, and as a part of their professional training, I think the rest of us marvel at the personal courage it takes to face fires and rescue people. In this spirit, I want to acknowledge the other firefighters at Station No. 5 in Boulder and all the firefighters in America who risk their lives us to keep our communities safe.

As a prime example of the courage and heroism that firefighters exhibit every day, and to recognize Scott Adamcheski for his service, I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking him, and acknowledging the efforts of firefighters across America.

IN MEMORY OF GARY GALLOWAY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of Gary Galloway, who passed away November 21 at the age of 56.

Gary Galloway was a detective at the Simi Valley, California, Police Department, which is an understatement of the important work he performed there. For 21 of the 29 years Gary served the Simi Valley community, he investigated child sexual abuse cases and other crimes against persons.

Twenty-one years is a long time for a detective to investigate child sex abuse cases. Most officers suffer from an understandable burnout confronting the worse a criminal can do to a child. But Gary was passionate about protecting children. He was equally a skilled and hardworking detective.

Countless lives have been protected because of Gary's diligence and professionalism. Equally, many individuals were cleared of false allegations because of Gary's dedication to the truth.

I met Gary when I was elected to the Simi Valley City Council and he was a new officer, and got to know him through many ride-alongs with him on patrol. I followed his career through my years as mayor and as congressman. He was a respected friend who I visited with just a few weeks ago during the Simi Valley Days Parade.

Gary served as a reserve officer before joining the Police Department full time in 1980. He quickly made his mark as a patrol officer and a field training officer. Then he joined the detective ranks and was assigned to child sex abuse cases. He never looked back.